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(b) which of them have been allowed to exploit forests at their own cost, and on what conditions;

(c) whether they have been granted any facilities by way of roads and otherwise for carrying out forest exploitation; and

(d) whether the Government have carried out or propose to carry out any scheme of roads and bridges in order to encourage forest exploitation by private agency?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) No company or firm has applied for permission.

(d) Government are prepared to consider any applications which may be received. Meanwhile they are working certain forests experimentally.

### Government Press.

#### *Alleged complaints against the Superintendent, Government Press.*

\* 2282 Q.—Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the cases of Ayyaswami Pillai, accountant, who has been severely punished by the Superintendent, Government Press, and of Krishnaswami Ayyangar, store-keeper, Sadagoparamanujam, time-keeper, and Rangaswami, a mechanic, dealt with by the Superintendent, Government Press, have been examined by Government and with what results?

A.—S. R. Sadagoparamanujam, late time-keeper, and A. Rangaswami, late mechanic, in the Government Press submitted memorials to Government against the orders of the Superintendent, Government Press; the Government examined these cases and decided that the orders of the Superintendent, Government Press, were justified. The other persons mentioned in the question made no representation to the Government.

#### *Grant of leave to employees in the Government Press.*

\* 2283 Q.—Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that if the employees fall sick and apply for leave for a few days only on the strength of medical certificate, the Superintendent, Government Press, treats the employees as being absent, and, if so, why?

A.—The production of a medical certificate does not in itself confer upon a Government servant any right to leave, the grant of which is in the discretion of the Superintendent, Government Press. If an employee absents himself after leave has been refused, the period of absence will be treated as absence from duty.

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, if the production of a medical certificate does not confer upon a Government servant any right to leave, what else can?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is clearly stated that the production of a medical certificate does not in itself confer . . ."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Then what else does, Sir?"

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Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU :—"Supposing, Sir, a man is too ill to get out of his house and sends a medical certificate, ought not that to be sufficient in itself?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"That is a hypothetical question."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Do the rules allow that in spite of the production of a medical certificate, a man may be treated as absent from duty?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Then there are other factors also to be taken into consideration. In this case, the head of the department came to the conclusion that the medical certificate was not sufficient."

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU :—"May I know what the other factors are which guide the heads of the departments?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I want notice."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Do the Government make a distinction between a certificate granted by a registered medical practitioner and a certificate granted by a practitioner not so registered?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I suppose so."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Is the certificate granted by a registered medical practitioner always accepted?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Not in all cases."

*Alleged dismissal of sweepers in the Government Press.*

\* 2284 Q.—Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that sweepers and messengers in the Government Press, numbering about a dozen, were dismissed summarily by the Superintendent; and

(b) if so, what are the charges against them and what are their explanations, and what is the reason on which their appeal petitions have been rejected?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The services of the individuals were dispensed with for misconduct. They preferred no appeal to Government.

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU :—"Are the Government aware that the appeals preferred by these people through the head of their department were not forwarded to the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The Government are not aware of it."